

REMARKS

Claim 14 has been written into independent form. Claims 1-13 and 15-21 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter has been added, and entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the Amendment, claims 14 and 22-25 will be pending.

The drawing was objected to because the reference numbers 1-6 in Figure 1 are not mentioned in the description.

In response, the specification has been amended to recite the reference numbers shown in Figure 1. Withdrawal of the objection to the drawing is respectfully requested.

Claim 14 was objected to as being in improper multiple dependent form.

Claim 14 has been written into independent form. Withdrawal of the objection to claim 14 and examination of claim 14 on the merits are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6, 19, and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ikehira et al (US 2002/0193532).

Claims 1-6, 19, and 20 have been cancelled, rendering this rejection moot.

Claims 1-7, 11, 12 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Irwin et al. (Luminescent gold(l) acetylides: from model compounds to polymers, Organometallics, 1997, 16, 3541-3547). Claims 7, 11, 12, 22, 24 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ikehira et al in view of Irwin et al. Claims 17, 18 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ikehira et al in view of Irwin et al and Senoo et al (US 2002/0045062 A1). Claims 17, 18 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Irwin et al, in view of Ikehira et al and Senoo et al.

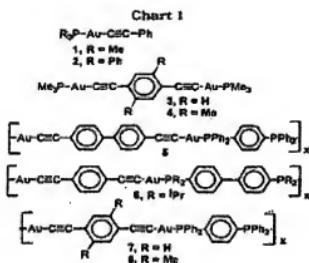
Claims 19, 20, 24 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Irwin et al in view of Ikehira et al.

Applicants respond as follows.

Claims 1-7, 11, 12 and 17-20 have been cancelled, rendering all the rejections of those claims moot.

Claims 14 and 22-25 are patentable over the cited references because the cited references do not disclose or render obvious the present invention, either alone or in combination.

Irwin et al disclose an organic polymer light-emitting material having a gold complex (Abstract and page 3543, Chart 1). Irwin et al discloses in Chart 1 the following compounds:



As shown above, the gold complex structure of Irwin et al is contained in a main chain of the compounds, not as a part of a "crosslinking group" or "a side chain" as required by the present claims. Irwin et al discloses a polymer having a rigid structure comprising π -conjugation and a gold atom. Such "rigid-rod polymers" are insoluble in common organic solvents (page 3541, right column and page 3545, second paragraph of the left column).

In contrast, all the polymers of the present invention have a gold complex in a side chain and are soluble in organic solvents.

Irwin et al further discloses that the excited state is stabilized by the greater degree of delocalization in the conjugated polymers and that the red shift and reduced intensity in the emission bands are observed which are attributed to the greater delocalization in the polynuclear (page 3545, second paragraph of the left column).

In contrast, the polymer light-emitting element material having a gold complex structure in a side chain of the present invention has the same emission wavelength as the original emission wavelength of the gold complex structure.

Ikehira et al discloses a polymeric light-emitting substance having in the main chain or side chain a metal complex structure showing light emission in paragraph [0009]. However, Ikehira et al also teaches that "particularly, it is preferable that the polymeric light emitting substance is a conjugated type polymeric light emitting substance," and does not disclose specific examples of non-conjugated polymers.

Accordingly, the polymer compound obtained by polymerizing vinyl compounds as recited in the present claims would not have been obvious over the teachings of Irwin et al and Ikehira et al, either alone or in combination.

Senoo et al is cited as teaching using alkene functional groups to form the monomers into a luminescent polymer ([0015]). Senoo et al does not make up for the deficiencies of Irwin et al and Ikehira et al.

In view of the above, reconsideration and withdrawal of all the foregoing §§102/103(a) rejections are respectfully requested.

Allowance of claims 14 and 22-25 is respectfully requested. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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